

COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP

BoRit Asbestos Area

Ambler / Upper Dublin / Whitpain, Pennsylvania

To: BoRit Asbestos Area Community Advisory Group
From: Kathleen Lambert
Date: June 4, 2010
Subject: **Summary of the June 3, 2010, BoRit CAG Meeting; actual start time 6:37PM**

Next Meeting.

The next BoRit Asbestos Area CAG meeting will be held as follows:

Date: Wednesday, July 14, 2010
Time: 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
Location: Community Ambulance Association, 1414 E. Butler Pike, Ambler, PA.

If you have questions or comments regarding the upcoming meeting or about this summary, please contact CAG Co-Chairs Bob Adams and Sal Boccuti.

CAG Attendees.

Attendees included the following:

<u>Name</u>	<u>MBR/Alt #</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>MBR/Alt#</u>
Adams, Bob	Mbr.	Allerton, Barbara	Mbr.
Amento, Peter	Mbr.	Boccuti, Sal	Mbr.
Chase, Gordon	Alt. 1	Dipietro, Carol	Alt. 1
Dougherty, Bernadette	Mbr.	Emmett, Ted	Mbr.
Deizel, Carrie	Alt. EPA	Froehlich, David	Mbr.
Libertz, Amelia	EPA	Markiewicz, Karl	Alt. 1
McCormick, Sharon	Mbr.	Moore, Paul	Alt. 1
Morgan, Diane	Mbr.	Pilling, Beth	Mbr.
Pronczak, Roman	Mbr.	Rebarchak, Lynda	Mbr.
Rovira, Eduardo	EPA	Slade, Joanne	Alt. 1

Stokes, Michael	Alt. 1	Duteau, Helen	EPA
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Observers.

There were approximately (3) observers present for at least part of the meeting. Also attending (1) reporter from the Ambler Gazette

Welcome & Announcements.

- Agenda for the meeting reviewed.
- May Minutes reviewed and addition to the minutes was made.
- July meeting moved from July 7th to 14th at 6:30; meeting place to be determined. Schedule was altered to accommodate EPA and DEP time schedules. No objections were made regarding schedule change
- Two presentations scheduled, Beth Pilling and Eduardo Rovira

Presentations

Beth Pilling- Montgomery County Planning Commission- Preliminary Vision Plan

Future Plans Group Progress report stated they held several Spring 2010 brainstorming sessions and developed a preliminary vision for reuse of the BoRit site. This vision is based upon the CAG's preferred reuse alternative of a Greenway Park connecting to existing and regionally important Wissahicken Greenway and the Green Ribbon Trail initiatives. The new park would provide a combination of recreation, conservation and community gathering uses; connect neighborhoods; evoke the surrounding history and also complement Ambler's downtown revitalization. (refer to attached report maps) Specific design elements would be finalized in future site and park plans after more information is available about site data and remedial options. The draft vision includes various recommendations regarding

- communicating with the EPA and Property owners to refine planning principles, vision, scope and to clarify time schedules and regulatory issues.
- creating a working process for promoting community collaboration, education and intergovernmental cooperation
- integrating a unified plan for physical linkages and programmatic relationships with the regional community, neighborhood and business districts.

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- preserving the watershed natural resources and restoring riparian landscape while providing for future land management and stewardship.
- enhancing and protecting wildlife habitat and providing educational programming to demonstrate the importance of habitat preservation, and
- fostering collaboration among surrounding communities on enhancement of the Wissahickon Greenway and Green Ribbon Trail.
- Next Steps-Action items for the committee
- CAG discussion and consensus on Vision and Recommendations- next committee meeting
- Revision and update of draft report for distribution to CAG- summer 2010
- Preparation of draft final report for October CAG meeting
- Presentation of executive summary for website; gathering of public input- October 2010
- Presentation of draft final report for comment at November meeting- November 2010
- Finalization of interim report based upon EPA input- winter 2010
- Revision of interim report as appropriate as specific information is provided by the EPA- 2011 and ongoing

(End presentation)

Eduardo Rovira- Environmental Protection Agency- Tannery Run Report

Phase One- the Wissahickon Creek and reservoir banks vegetation restoration area is completed and growing well.

Phase Two- Rose Valley creek vegetation restoration area completed and growing slowly but making progress

Phase Three- design for removal action at Kane-Core parcel:

Objective was to stabilize the banks of the Tannery Run in preparation for remedial action along the banks. The design presented proposed a pipe to partially enclose the Tannery Run where the creek is affected by the encroaching asbestos pile. The pipe enclosure starts in the area where the pile encroaches on the stream bank and runs through the lower portion of the site. In the lower area, the stream bank is quite steep. The purpose of the pipe is to control the stream flow, prevent further bank erosion and avoid potential exposure of the materials. The work site preparation area of the embankment will be leveled in order to provide a

working platform. Additional site leveling will create an access road to the working platform. The platform and road will be stabilized with gravel and geo-textile to prevent soil erosion.

Discussion Q&A-

Q: David Froelich- (DF)- I believe there is another water conducting pipe in the area, what happen with it?

A: Eduardo Rovira- (ER)- Our team has looked at this issue, Remedial has tested the area. We need to incorporate it into the design.

Q: Gordon Chase- (GC)- Is the pipe design for the Tannery Run concrete?

A: ER- Concrete is preferred by Ambler Borough however, the material for the pipe is undecided. Cost is a factor and we are still exploring material choices.

Q: Sharon McCormick- (SMc)- My research, based upon old maps, revealed the existing water pipe originates at the old reservoir, runs under the existing debris pile and was both intake and discharge for the old paper mill. What has your investigation found?

Q: Sal Boccuti- (SB)- Has Remedial looked at this area?

A: ER- Remedial has not formulated a plan because our design is not finalized.

Q: Bob Adams- (BA)-The frequency of 100 year type floods is higher than other areas in this location, what are your plans for the stream bed?

A: ER- The Army Corp of Engineers has designed the plan for double capacity of a 100 year flood. Nothing has been added to the creek bed because it already is at bedrock level.

Vegetation is planned to stabilize the embankments

Q: BA- Why don't we take away the contaminated materials along the stream bank?

A: ER- We are looking into the possibility of material removal, however, full removal is not budgeted at this time. Materials cut from the pile will be covered on site.

Q: SMC- Would it make sense to take the pile down flat?

A: ER- Not currently budgeted or being considered, however, it is possible because of the relatively small area affected.

Q: Roman Pronczak- (RPz)- Where are you putting the cut materials, I'm not clear?

A: ER- We have no intention of disturbing the entire pile and we will cover any disturbed areas resulting from the required removal work.

Q: RPz- Does your design mitigate the resulting water energy caused by the pipe installation?

A: ER- We plan to mitigate the energy with rip-rap at the pipe exit.

(End presentation)

Helen Duteau- Environmental Protection Agency- Branch Chief

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Helen Duteau - (HDu)- Opening statement- Attended meeting in order to clarify questions presented to her office regarding community support and resource allocation. She stated she was “here to answer questions about EPA staff” and stressed the EPA was “not pulling out of the process at all”. Occasionally, the EPA staff members assigned the CAG are unable to attend meetings. Francisco has replaced Larry because of a personal career change. Vance is [Francisco's](#) back-up person for the project. Our group sits together and discusses all our case loads during the work week so team members supporting each other are well informed. The volume of questions and issues handled by our office does not allow our staff 100% coverage; “can’t have everyone everywhere”. One major task we handle every day are questions submitted to the EPA about projects from government officials from all levels of government; national, state, and local. By law we are required to answer these questions in writing; a time consuming process.

Discussion Q&A

Q: Sharon McCormick- (SMc)-How common are personnel shifts because I’m concerned and frustrated by the constant changes in personnel assigned to the project?

A: HDu- I would love to be able to dedicate a single person as a liaison to the CAG. Because we manage multiple sites we need to accommodate other projects too. We have talented qualified staff who can manage more than one project.

A: Carrie Deitzel- CDz- EPA rep.- People may move around but we try to be consistent in our personnel assignments.

Q: Diane Morgan- (DMg)- If the questions slowed down would you then be able to reallocate resources?

A: HDu- We regularly receive questions from literally 100’s of sites, they are unlikely to slow down.

A: CDz- Our job is to service multiple sites, be in the field at multiple locations as well provide emergency response support.

Q: Gordon Chase- (GC)- What is the response time for questions?

A: HDu- We must respond to elected officials within 2 weeks of receiving the questions.

A: CDz- Time in the past has been spent on redundant questions. We are now compiling a database catalog of responses to streamline the process. Time spent on answering questions often absorbs time which could be allocated to remedial investigation.

A: HDu- Cataloging previous answers online will short cut time needed on this task and potentially provide resources for access by legislators to avoid question submission in the first place.

A: Amelia Libertz- ALZ- EPA- Based on question volume we are forced to drop other work.

A: CDz- Our staff is not only responsible locally but for the entire Region 3 question response.

Q: SMc- How can we help short cut this process?

A: HDu- You can't really, however, Vance and Francisco will be assigned to the BoRit site going forward. They will be your contacts.

(End presentation)

Amelia Libertz- ALZ- EPA CAG Coordinator, TASC & TAG Coordinator

Presented ideas to acquire a TAG grant used to hire and fund a technical representative for documentation review during the remediation process. The TAG grant allows the CAG to choose a representative, control the mission and funding. The EPA will provide assistance to obtain the appropriate grant through a TASC function, in the form of a scope meeting. The separate committee must be formed for this task and to manage the TAG grant. The CAG needs to provide to the EPA a propriety list for the TAG grant. The EPA will assist the CAG through the entire process as well as subcommittee member training to manage the grant. The EPA also has community education resources and can provide presentations.

Discussion Q&A

Q: Sal Boccuti- (SB)- Is the TAG available for CAG use?

A: ALZ- The CAG must form a separate group for TAG however it may be formed using CAG members. You need to form a separate 5013c for the TAG board.

Q: SB- Is the funding limit \$50,000?

A: ALZ- \$50,000 is the initial grant however supplemental funding is available.

Q: SB- What is the limit?

A: It depends; the funds come through the EPA and are subject to available yearly allocations for the program.

Q: Sharon McCormick- (SMc)- EPA already funds the TASC are we allowed TAG funding too?

A: ALZ- Yes, this is a separate program for the specific need in reviewing documents; a congressionally mandated program.

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A: Helen Duteau - (HDu)- Superfund program now has larger community engagement to address more issues however the funding does not necessarily follow. TAG and TASC are what we can use to get more support and plan to expand TASC in the future.

A: Carrie Deitzel- CDz- EPA rep.- Superfund requires community engagement by law we use these other programs to coordinate with other sections such as water, air, etc. beyond Superfund constraints.

A: HDu- We are looking to implement a strategic One EPA concept to coordinating community involvement efforts in relation to water, air etc.

A: ALz- EPA is awaiting your input to start the grant process for this program.

A: CDz- Thomas Fee a facilitator for meeting in the TASC program would be available to facilitate the TAG workshop, the TASC has remaining funding to assist with this process.

Q: Diane Morgan- (DMg)- Is the grant (amount) affected by the amount of other groups joining?

A: ALz- the CAG must form a separate group for TAG and can be made up of any mix of members the CAG wishes to incorporate. The TAG formation must be advertised and (we) advise not to have too many cross-competing members with other committees.

Q: DMg- We have requested asbestos technical advisor, what is the status of this request?

A: ALz: The TAG will take care of funding for this request.

(End presentation)

Observer Comments.

- There were no observer comments.

Rules Committee.

- Met and discussed changes to the charter, quorum requirements and voting

Community Awareness Workgroup.

- no report was provided

Health, Environment, Risk and Safety (HERS) Workgroup.

- Discussed in meeting presentations given in the community.
- Discussed Dr Emett study in committee.
- A question was asked about the drinking water testing from AQUA currently the committee is drafting a letter to AQUA to request continuous voluntary testing of the drinking water.

Removal/Remediation & Monitoring Oversight (R/R&M) Workgroup.

- David Froehlich is now chairman of this committee

Future Plans Workgroup.

- Presentation was given a noted above.

Old Business.

- None.

Open Comment Period.

- If there is time, some members would like to discuss action items at each meeting.

New Business.

- The next meeting will on July 14, 2010.
- Partial agenda includes presentations by Jack Kelly, Jim Feeney, and Stacey Kratz ; also review of action items tasks list.

The meeting adjourned at 08:42 pm.

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| BoRit Site Context Map 1.0

BoRit Site Proposed Greenway Park Map 2.0